Centres/Quality Dyeing Units, Project Package, Thrift Fund, New Insurance Scheme, Margin Money for Destitute weavers, Loan to State Governments and Market Development Assistance Scheme to Uttar Pradesh. All State Governments including Uttar Pradesh have been advised to take optimal advantage of these schemes.

Profits/Losses of NTC Units

3969. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of profits/losses incurred by each of the NTC units during the preceding three years, year-wise;

(b) the causes for losses, if any, incurred and when; and

(c) the steps taken/contemplated to be taken by Government to make them profitable?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Details of profit/losses incurred by each NTC Unit during the last three years year-wise are given in Annexure [*See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 98]

(b) The NTC Mills have been incurring losses due to various reasons which include, inter-alia, obsolete machinery, excess man power, acute shortage of working capital, and lack of modernisation.

(c) On the basis of a unit wise viability study made by NTC, Government is considering a revised turn around strategy for the viable mills of NTC, keeping in view the BIFR norms of the net worth of these mills turning positive, within the period prescribed by BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

Growth in garment export

3970. SHRI S. NIRAIKULATHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the total Government support for export during 1997-98, only 11 per cent support was given to garment sector;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the export in garment sector registered only negligible growth in export during that period; and

(c) what are the reasons for the poor growth?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) Government support to the garment sector covers neutralisation of taxes, Export Promotion Schemes, Export Import (EXIM) Policy etc.

During 1997-98 exports of garment registered a growth of 3.1% in US dollar terms and 10% in Rupee terms.

(c) The low growth is due to the sluggishne in the overseas markets particularly in the EU.

Production of Muga Silk

3971. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of Muga Silk in the country during the preceding three years, State-wise;

(b) whether certain environmental diseases are posing threats to Muga silk production in the North-East;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to solve the problem; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) State-wise Muga raw silk production during the last three years is given below. The figures for 1997-98 are provinsional subject to reconfirmation by the concerned State Governments.

(in tonnes)

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (Provisional)
Assam	86.00	72.00	60.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0.10	0.14	0.16
Manipur	0.20	0.06	Negligible
Mizoram	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
Meghalaya	0.94	1.14	2.00
Nagaland	0.06	Negligible	Negligible
West Bengal	0.05	0.08	0.09
TOTAL	87.35	73.42	62.25

(b) Muga silk worms are reared out-doors in Som and Soalu plantations, exposed to pests & predators and climatic variations which at time causes viral, fungal and bacterial disease to appear in some rearings. There has been no unusual out-break of diseases which affects the muga silk production in the North-East.

(c) and (d) The Central Silk Board supplies disease free basic seed for further multiplication and distribution to the muga silkworm rearers. The Regional Muga Research Station has conducted studies on the incidence and management of disases as well as pests & predators of both muga silkworm and its host plants. A package on integrated management of muga silkworm diseases, pests & predators has also improved technology of muga silkworm rearing evolved by the Regional Muga Research Station at Boko(Assam) under Central Silk Board has been reeommended to State Sericulture Departments for introduction among muga silkworm rearers. In addition a Disease Monitoring Cell has been constituted, comprising of resarch and technical personnel from Central Silk Board and Deptt. of Sericulture in the North Eastern States to monitor the disease control by undertaking inspection of silkworm crops and suggest On-the-Spot remedial measures for preventing crop losses.

Establishment of Quality Silk Centres in Orissa

3972. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has been asked to take up time bound programmes for the establishment of Quality Silk Centres in the area having large concentrations of the silk farmers and weavers;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith number of units modernise so far, District-wise;

(c) the Union Government have provided any assistance for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Sericulture Departments, the Central Silk Board (CSB) is implementing a number of schemes/projects/programmes for promoting development of all the four types of silk. These include schemes for extension of R&D, training, infrastructural & extension support to the sector through network of CSB's units & implementation of certain developmental/ incentive/financial assistance schemes for